

Church finalizes Camas building purchase

□ Journey congregation could relocate by Thanksgiving

By Dawn Feldhaus
Post-Record staff

Journey Community Church has purchased the building in downtown Camas that most recently housed Columbia River Bar & Grill.

The \$710,000 sale closed Wednesday, according to Greg Goforth, a licensed commercial real estate agent with Coldwell Banker Commercial/Jenkins-Bernhardt Associates who represented the building's owner RVR Investment LLC.

Journey Lead Pastor Jay Held said renovations of the 11,100 square foot structure at 304 N.E. Fourth Ave. are expected to cost up to \$1.5 million and be completed by

Thanksgiving. The project is expected to result in the addition of a sanctuary, office space and classrooms.

The Journey congregation currently meets Sundays, at 10 a.m., in the cafeteria at Skyridge Middle School, 5220 N.W. Parker St.

"We do 'church in a box' now," Held said. "We haul it in, set it up and put it in a trailer. I believe there is something psychological about having a home. I think a church is well served to have a place called home. Nobody really wants to be homeless."

"We see ourselves as a church that wants to be part of Camas," he added. "It gives us a physical place and a presence in the heart of the community of Camas. We see Camas developing and improving."

The average weekly attendance at the Journey Sunday service is 150, according to Held. The



Journey Community Church has purchased the building at 304 N.E. Fourth Ave., in downtown Camas for \$710,000. The former site of Columbia River Bar & Grill and Dodge City Bar & Grill is scheduled to receive up to \$1.5 million in renovations and be completed by Thanksgiving. The church, which will celebrate its 10th anniversary in February, currently meets Sunday mornings at Skyridge Middle School. "Journey just needs a physical place called home," said Lead Pastor Jay Held (not pictured).

church will celebrate its 10th anniversary in February. 944-8080 or log on to www.journeycc.org.

For more information, call